FATHOM THIS!

The monthly newsletter from San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

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IN THIS ISSUE:

FREE SUMMER WEEKENDS
AQUATIC PARK BATHHOUSE BUILDING TO RE-OPEN
SAIL ABOARD THE *ALMA*NEW SHIPS MANAGER
NEW ACQUISITIONS IN DOCUMENTS
THE MARITIME LIBRARY
NEW IN THE MARITIME STORE
LINKS

Welcome to the June issue of Fathom This! and to the beginnings of a beautiful summer in San Francisco. San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park welcomes you to walk Hyde Street Pier and board the park's magnificent collection of floating historic vessels. Join ranger and docent-led tours and programs, research history in the Maritime Library and in the Historic Documents Department. Visit the Aquatic Park Bathhouse Building and view its WPA-era artwork. We are pleased to announce that the Bathhouse Building will re-open on Sunday, June 21, 11am-4pm after an extended period of restoration work. Details in this newsletter.

For a complete schedule of the programs the park has to offer, please see the park's website at http://www.nps.gov/safr/ and the website of the park's cooperating association, the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, at http://www.maritime.org. Feel free to forward this newsletter, and enter it into blogs. You may cancel receiving it at any time by emailing the editor at peter_kasin@nps.gov. Your name and email address is never loaned or sold.

FREE SUMMER WEEKENDS

June 20-21, July 18-19, August 15-16.

During these tough economic times the National Park Service is waiving entrance fees at park sites nationwide on Summer weekends beginning Saturday, June 20. At our

park, we will be waiving fees to board the historic ships (see dates above). Your national parks are places where everyone can have fun, reconnect with history and nature, and help preserve our natural, cultural and historic treasures.

AQUATIC PARK BATHHOUSE BUILDING TO RE-OPEN

Beginning Sunday, June 21, Daily, 11-4. Information and guided tour schedule: 415-447-5000.

The magnificent WPA-era Aquatic Park Bathhouse Building (Maritime Museum Building) will re-open to public for daily visits beginning Sunday, June 21! View the building's unique newly-restored artwork and explore its WPA history through ranger-led and self-guided tours, and through exhibits on its WPA history.

SAIL ABOARD THE ALMA

Saturday, June 13, 27, 1:00-4:00. Boarding at 12:30. At Hyde Street Pier. Rates: \$35 adults, \$30 seniors, \$20 ages 6-15. Ages 5 and under free, with paid adult. For reservations and information, and for a schedule of dates beyond June, please call the Visitor Center at 415-447-5000.

Haul lines to raise sails as you explore San Francisco Bay on a 3-hour sail aboard the historic 60-foot scow schooner *Alma*. Take in dazzling views and San Francisco's riveting history: Native Americans, Spanish explorers, the Gold Rush, the Barbary Coast, Fisherman's Wharf, earthquakes, shipbuilding and more! The last of her kind, the *Alma* will transport you to a long ago era on this unique, hands-on, educational sailing program. Wheelchair accessible, with assistance.

NEW SHIPS MANAGER

Phil Erwin, the *C.A. Thayer's* Chief Shipwright, accepted the position of Manager, Ships Preservation and Maintenance for the park. Congratulations to Phil! Here is his report on restoration projects for June and beyond:

Some exciting things are happening in the Ship Preservation and Maintenance Branch. Not only are we looking forward to resuming the aft house restoration work on the *C.A. Thayer* in the near future, but we are also going to be commencing a major Summerlong *Balclutha* rigging project. For the next three months if you look up you are likely to see skilled preservation riggers high above the decks of our historic ship plying their ancient trade. Preservation Rigger Supervisor Jamie White will be calling the shots. Preservation Shipwright Charter Kays is continuing his painstaking restoration of the Lewis Ark (houseboat) which is located very near the front gate of Hyde Street Pier. Many other interesting projects are in the works and I am enjoying the challenge of charting the way for our skilled crew and the vessels that we care for.

THE MARITIME LIBRARY

Lower Fort Mason, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Wheelchair accessible by elevator. Appointments and reference information: 415-561-7030. Same day appointments usually available. Research your maritime history through books, periodicals, photographs, videos, DVDs and recordings. The Maritime Library offers one of the largest collections of maritime history on the West Coast, in a quiet, reflective setting near the waterfront.

NEW ACQUISITIONS IN HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

Lower Fort Mason, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Available by appointment. 415-561-7030 (Library reference desk number).

Historic primary source material is available for you to study and learn about West Coast maritime history. Supervisory Collections Manager Keri Koehler announces two recently acquired collections that are now catalogued and ready for viewing.

Captain Henri Martinus Niewenhuysen personal papers and ship papers, 1937-1961 (Collection No. HDC 597). Includes ships logs, crew lists, ships articles, letters documenting his career, and other items.

The Sailors' Union of the Pacific records (HDC 1478) contains official Union documents, such as meeting minutes and correspondence, and various other items.

NEW IN THE MARITIME STORE

2905 Hyde Street, at the entrance to Hyde Street Pier. Open daily, 9:30am-5:30pm. 415-775-2665. Mail order available.

The White Ships 1927-1928 by Duncan O'Brien is a tribute to the Matson luxury liners and their beginnings. The White Ships became recognized worldwide as flagships of America's shipbuilding industry and of first-class ocean liner service. Hardbound with annotated historic photos and memorabilia. \$65.

LINKS

http://www.nps.gov/safr/ San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

http://www.maritime.org San Francisco Maritime National Park Association. The park's non-profit member supported cooperating association.

http://maritimelibraryfriends.org Friends of the San Francisco Maritime Museum Library. The park library's non-profit member supported cooperating association.

http://www.hydestreetlivinghistory.org. The park Living History Program's volunteer created and managed website.

http://www.corsair-viking.org. The San Francisco Sea Scouts, the park's neighboring partner in Aquatic Park.

This publication is strictly for informational purposes and does not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the Department of the Interior, the National Park Service, or the Park.